



PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hirata et al.
Serial No.: 09/214,982
Filed: January 14, 1999
Title: NOVEL VEGF-LIKE FACTOR

Art Unit: 1647
Examiner: C. Saoud
Customer No.: 21559

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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REPLY TO EXAMINER'S ACTION

In reply to the Examiner's Action mailed August 17, 2001, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph bridging page 11 to page 12 with the following new paragraph:

Deducing the signal peptide cleavage site (Fig. 4b) by hydrophobicity plot (Fig. 4a) and the method of von Heijne (von Heijne, G, Nucleic Acids Res. 14, 4683-4690(1986)), N-terminal 21 amino acid to both ends as a template cDNA, and using the